

926 Grand Ave  
Rockford Ills  
Oct 14<sup>th</sup> 1892

Mr M. L. Fernald  
Cambridge, Mass

My dear Sir: -

Returning home  
after an absence of three weeks  
I find on my table a copy  
of your Portland Catalogue  
of Maine Plants. Many  
Thanks for the favor. I  
enjoy such things. like to  
have them handy for reference.  
In the present instance I find  
a more than usual interest  
for it so happened that a good  
many years ago - when I first

set out upon an enthusiastic  
career of collecting and exchanging  
plants almost my very first  
correspondents were the Rev  
Joseph Blake and the Rev  
J. W. Chickering - So the plants  
of Maine, right at the beginning  
of my acquaintance with  
the flora of the Marston  
district, were almost as familiar  
as those of my own state - I  
was made acquainted with every  
new find and was as eager  
to possess a specimen from the  
fresh locality as if the whole  
matter were an affair of my  
own door yard - And so at  
this late day I find a  
peculiar interest in turning

your pages - recognizing the  
old things, as well as those  
which have since been  
added,

By the way can you  
tell me anything of the  
present whereabouts of Mr J. N.  
Allen. I have a vague  
impression that he went to Calif-  
ornia to care for his father  
who afterwards died there (if my  
memory serves me aright) Later  
I recall an advertisement in the  
Bulletin of an herbarium for  
sale - but whether of of other or one  
I do not distinctly remember -

Years ago I received from Mr J. N.  
Allen some very interesting collections  
of Labrador & Canadian Willows but of  
late I have lost all trace of him -  
Yours very truly  
Wm. B. Peck